

# Nature

We work hard to protect our natural resources as we improve our transportation network for our citizens. When unavoidable impacts take place, as a last resort, we replace the habitat. Here are some successful examples.







*Left:* We returned this 24-acre area on Drag Island in Atlantic County to its natural state as a salt marsh, a viable habitat for indigenous wildlife and plants. It had been used as a dump for silt dredged from the nearby channel. *Above:* Newly created fresh water wetlands provide two acres of new wetlands for every acre lost.







*Above: The brook trout is a native New Jerseyan. To protect it and two other wild trout species during the construction of a truck passing lane on Route 206 in Flanders, we moved Flanders Brook. Top Right: Volunteers from Trout Unlimited helped to move trout. Bottom Right: The stream was diverted into an enclosed pipe to protect the water from eroding soil during construction. Next Page: The trout are flourishing in their new habitat.*





*Top:* Wildlife have a safe crossing under Route 31 in Clinton. *Above:* NJDOT is an active participant in the state's anti-global warming initiative in which we replace two trees for every one we remove during a project.